

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Deputy Director of Training

FROM : Chief, Intelligence Training Division

SUBJECT: Comments on Employee Suggestion - Number 382

DATE: 9 July 1953

1. It is the consensus of this staff that the suggestion to use tape recordings of BIC (I) area briefings is not feasible at the present time.

2. For the most part these briefings do not match what might be considered to be "professional standards". Trainees are encouraged to select areas about which they have no extensive knowledge or background. The purpose of this is to start them all off on a somewhat equal basis in their research, and to discourage unwarranted reliance upon previously acquired information. It is also felt that this procedure encourages them to become familiar with a greater number of intelligence publications, since beginning with an unfamiliar area makes necessary considerably more probing for information than might normally be the case.

3. It should also be emphasized that the materials which they have at hand for this purpose are limited and frequently not as current as would be desired for briefing an area representative. They have available all of the published NIS material, and the weekly and monthly publications of the intelligence community. They are asked, however, not to attempt having machine runs made by the library on current information reports, since this would put an unnecessary additional load on the library facilities. Consequently, they depend to a very considerable extent upon newspapers and other overt publications for much of their material, and if a particular area is not currently newsworthy there may be resulting gaps in their information.

4. Perhaps the most significant qualification of the usefulness of these reports for the purpose suggested is the fact that, although factual information is emphasized and carefully checked, one of the major interests here is in teaching research principles and methodology. Consequently, if a gap does exist in the information which they acquire and cannot be filled without undue resort to the facilities of other offices, the gap remains unfilled. We consider it to be sufficient if the gap is recognized by the trainee and if he knows how it can be filled when necessary.

JOB NO. BOX NO. FLD NO. DOC. NO. 4 NO CHANGE
IN CLASS/DECLASS CLASS CHANGED TO: TS S C RET. JUST. 22
NEXT REV DATE 09 REV DATE 1/18/80 REVIEWER 02923 TYPE DOC. 02
NO. PGS 2 CREAT DATE 09 COMP 11 CPL 11 ORG CLASS C
REV CHGSS 13 REV COORD. AUTH: HR 703

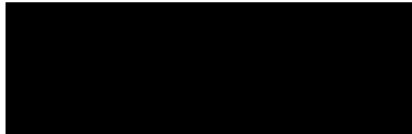
-2-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

Deputy Director of Training

9 July 1953

5. Emphasis is also placed upon principles of organization and presentation of an oral briefing, and the trainee's selectivity with reference to the information, rather than the completeness and currentness which would appear to be essential for the thoroughly "professional" job which is suggested.



25X1A9a

OTR/JWM:afp

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Addressee
3 - ITD

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~